

PATENT
Reply under 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Group 1762

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1-19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A method of application of liquid through viscid mediums onto the surface of a pre-dried material web, comprising the steps of:

applying a viscid medium coating to at least one side of the material web, the material web moving in a web direction;

5 routing the material web through a press nip; and

supporting the material web with an extensible support surface, substantially without free draw, after said routing step, said extensible support surface being extensible in said web direction.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said supporting step includes supporting the material web by at least one flexible continuous belt substantially until the material web reaches a dryer cylinder of a downstream dryer group.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said applying step includes the sub-steps of:

applying the viscid medium to an outside surface of a flexible continuous belt; and

transferring the viscid medium from said outside surface of said flexible continuous belt to
5 an underneath side of the material web.

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23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said flexible continuous belt is configured to provide support to the material web.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said applying step includes the sub-steps of:

applying the viscid medium to one of an application roll and an outside surface of a flexible continuous belt; and

5 transferring the viscid medium from one of said application roll and said outside surface of said flexible continuous belt to a top side of the material web.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said flexible continuous belt is configured to provide support to the material web.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said applying step includes the sub-steps of:

applying the viscid medium incrementally to a plurality of flexible continuous belts; and supporting the material web by at least one of said plurality of flexible continuous belts.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising the step of conveying the material web through a penetration segment of greater than approximately 100 mm, prior to said routing step.

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28. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the material web has a mass per unit area not exceeding 90 g/m^2 .

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the material web has a dry-content of between approximately 85% and approximately 95%, prior to said applying step.

30. (currently presented) A coating device for a material web, comprising:

at least one application device configured to apply a viscid medium to the material web,

the material web moving in a web direction;

a first support roll;

5 a second support roll, said second support roll being movable relative to said first support roll, said second roll located apart from said first support roll;

a continuous belt supported by said first support roll and said second support roll, said continuous belt being an extensible support dependent on said second support roll, said extensible support supporting the material web substantially without free draw, said extensible support being
10 extensible in said web direction; and

a press shoe located proximate to said continuous belt forming a press nip therebetween, said press nip located downstream from said at least one application device.

31. (previously presented) The device of claim 30, wherein said at least one application device comprises a first application device disposed proximate to an outside surface of said continuous belt where said first support roll is in contact with said continuous belt, said first

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application device configured to deliver a viscid medium to said continuous belt for subsequent
5 transfer to a side of the material web.

32. (previously presented) The device of claim 31, further comprising:

a plurality of guide rollers;

an application roll;

an other continuous belt disposed around said application roll and said plurality of guide
5 rollers, said other continuous belt configured as a press belt;

a second application device disposed proximate to an outside surface of said other
continuous belt where said application roll is in contact with said other continuous belt, said
second application device configured to deliver a viscid medium to said other continuous belt for
subsequent transfer to an other side of the material web.

33. (previously presented) The device of claim 32, further comprising a drive section